

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 MADRID 03920 191032Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15
USIA-06 IO-13 ACDA-07 TRSE-00 /078 W
-----191040Z 082396 /14

P 191011Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY MADRID
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 370
INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L MADRID 3920

E.O.11652: XGDS1
TAGS: PFOR, SP, PO
SUBJECT: SHOOTING OF SPANISH FISHING VESSEL BY PORTUGUESE NAVY
CRAFT

REF: LISBON 3928

1. REGARDING THE PORTUGUESE NAVY'S FIRING ON THE SPANISH
FISHING VESSEL "FILO-AMI" IN PORTUGUESE WATERS, THE FOREIGN
MINISTRY'S CHIEF FOR WESTERN EUROPE (DEL PINO) TOLD EMBOFF
MAY 18 THAT SO FAR THE MINISTRY HAD OFFICIAL VERSION
FOR THE SPANISH NAVY. SO THAT THEY HAD ONLY THE TWO FORMAL
PORTUGUESE STATEMENTS TO GO ON. IT APPEARED, HE SAID THAT,
THE BOAT WAS IN PORTUGUESE WATERS, FAILED TO HEED
THE PORTUGUESE BOATS'S COMMAND, TRIED TO ESCAPE AND DID
ESCAPE.
THUS THERE HAD BEEN A INFRACTION.
THE MEASURES TAKEN IN RESPONSE RESULTING IN THE
DEATH OF A SPANIARD, WERE NOT WELL TAILORED TO THE PROBLEM.

2. WHETHER THE FATAL SHOOTING HAD BEEN THE RESULT OF BAD
LUCK, INPRUDENCE NEGLIGENCE, OR LACK OF CONTROL REMAINED
TO BE DETERMINED, DEL PINO CONTINUED, THE IMPORTANT THING
NOW WAS TO "DE DRAMATIZE" THE INCIDENT AND AVOID A MINIBATTLES
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 MADRID 03920 191032Z

OF COMMUNIQUE" (TO WHICH HE SAID THE PORTUGUESE
WERE PRONE. WITH THE EANES VISIT NEXT WEEK THE INCIDENT
HAD COME AT A EXTREMELY INOPPORTUNE TIME.

3. THERE WOULD DE PINO SAID, BE A SPANISH REPLY.
ALTHOUGH IT WAS NOT YET KNOWN WHERE THE REPLY WOULD COME
FROM (I.E. WHETHER FROM THE FOREIGN MINISTRY THE NAVY

MINISTRY, OR WHAT). FOLLOWING THIS ACTION ON THE DIPLOMATIC PLANE. THE MATTER WOULD BE PUREUED ON THE JURDICIAL CONSULAR ONE, WITH AN EYE ON THE POSSIBILITY OF INDEMNIZATION.

4. IT WAS A SAD CASE DEL PINO CONCLUDED, BUT I WOULD BE BEST NOT TO EXAGGERATE IT. HE DID NOT THINK THERE WOULD BE DOMESTIC POLITICAL REPERCUSSIONS BEYOND THE LOCAL LEVEL IN SPAIN BUT HE EXPRESSED SOME CONCERN THAT ONE OR ANOTHER POLITICAL PARTY MIGHT SEEK ELECTORCAL CAPTIAL. FROM THE INCIDENT WHICH WOULD NOT MAKE IT ANY EASIER.STABLER

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SHIP DETENTION, TERRITORIAL WATERS, TREATY VIOLATION, GOVERNMENT REACTIONS, FISHING BOATS, DEATHS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 19-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977MADRID03920
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X1
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770178-0490
Format: TEL
From: MADRID
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770540/aaaabian.tel
Line Count: 72
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 80375e90-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 LISBON 3928
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2455748
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SHOOTING OF SPANISH FISHING VESSEL BY PORTUGUESE NAVY CRAFT
TAGS: PFOR, SP, PO
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/80375e90-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009